Intoxicating liquors are specifically covered by Entry 8 of List (State List) of Schedule 7 to the Constitution of India and the States have the exclusive power to regulate their production, manufacture, possession, transport, purchase and sale. Similarly, "Land, that is to say, right in or over land, land tenures including the relation of landlord and tenant, and the collection of rents; transfer and alienation of agricultural land; land improvement and agricultural loans; colonization" are specifically covered by Entry 18 of List II (State List) of Schedule 7 to the Constitution and the States have the exclusive jurisdiction over the subject.

The crimes of boot-legging and property grabbing are dealt with the State Governments as per their special and local laws coupled with the provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) such as, sections 403,404 relating to dishonest misappropriation of movable property, 486 and 487 relating to selling goods marked with counterfeit property mark and making a false mark upon any receptacle containing goods as also the provisions of Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) such as sections 105 A to 105K relating to attachment and forfeiture of movable/ immovable/tangible/intangible property. While the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection registration and investigation of such crimes and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies, the Central Government supports the State Governments in their endeavours to investigate crimes to bring about a crime free society. The Union Government, however, attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention of crime and therefore, has been advising the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and take such measure as are necessary for prevention and control of crime.

Gap between requirement of officers and their recruitment in armed forces

*105. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large gap has arisen between the requirement of officers in the three wings of our Defence Forces and the numbers recruited over the last several years;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the steps being contemplated, if any, by Government to address the issue;

(d) whether it is a fact that recruitment of jawans in the Defence Forces has been unsatisfactory in terms of number of enthusiasts opting for the career, especially in the regions which have been traditionally attracting young generations to the forces;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps contemplated to improve it?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (f) There has been a gap between the requirement of officers in the three Services and the number recruited over the lats several years. The details regarding the vacancies of officers and actual intake at the entry level during the last three years is as follows:—

Services	2005		2006		2007	
	Vacancy	Joined	Vacancy	Joined	Vacancy	Joined
Army	2575	2165	3132	2230	2380	2083
Navy	540	415	540	390	**550**	**474**
Air Force	636	403	468	415	507	485

The shortfall in recruitment of officers in the three services are largely due to changes in the socio-economic environment and the resultant change in career preferences, better employment opportunities in other sectors, tough selection procedures and service conditions required for the Armed Forces etc. Several steps have been taken by the three Services to attract more talented youth to join the Defence Forces. All officers including those in Short Service Commission (SSC) have been made eligible to hold substantive rank of Captain, Major and Lieutenant Colonel and equivalents after 2,6 and 13 years of reckonable service respectively. The tenure of SSC Officers have been extended to 14 years in the three Services.

Besides, the Armed Forces have undertaken sustained image projection and publicity campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a challenging and satisfying career. Candidate-friendly recruitment procedures to attract more number of candidates and a focused publicity drive in various institutions to attract potential candidates have been undertaken. Awareness campaigns, participation in career fairs and exhibitions, advertisements in print and electronic media, motivational lectures in schools, colleges are also some of the other measures in this direction.

The Government has also appointed VI Central Pay Commission to go into the question of revision of pay and allowances etc. of the Government servants including Armed Forces. The three Services have presented a joint memorandum to the Pay Commission suggesting-revision of pay and allowances and other service conditions. The matter has also been discussed with the Pay Commission by the three Service Chiefs and officers in the Ministry of Defence.

As far as recruitment of Personnel Below Officer Ranks (PBOR) in the Armed Forces in concerned, there is an adequate response from all regions of the country and there is no shortage of PBORs in the Armed Forces. Therefore, the existing system is considered satisfactory.

Modernisation of NTC Mills

*106. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has spent about Rs. 530 crore for modernization of NTC mills and the production facilities have been upgraded;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the future programme cf NTC in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) As per the Modified Revival Scheme approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), 22 mills are to be modernised by National Textile Corporation (NTC)